

May 28, 2009

congressman
ROBERT BRADY
serving pennsylvania's first district

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Dear Friends,

On May 25, our country observed Memorial Day and stopped to reflect on the millions of men and women who have served our great nation. Our veterans have sacrificed so much to protect America and its citizens, and it is our duty to ensure that they are provided with the services they need when they return home. Already this year, Congress has worked to help veterans by giving businesses a \$2,400 tax credit for hiring unemployed veterans, providing nearly 2 million disabled veterans a \$250 Economic Recovery payment, helping military family homeowners harmed by the housing crisis, expanding relief, homeownership opportunities, and refinancing options for returning veterans through VA home loans, and creating a new Veterans Corps to provide services to veterans and military families, as well as creating volunteer opportunities for veterans to put them back to work.

Also, this month, the following bills have been signed into law:

- CREDIT CARDHOLDERS' BILL OF RIGHTS, to provide tough new protections for consumers by banning unfair rate increases, abusive fees, and penalties—such as retroactive rate hikes on existing balances and double-cycle billing -- giving consumers clear information, and strengthening enforcement.
- HELPING FAMILIES SAVE THEIR HOMES ACT, building on the President's housing initiative, to provide significant incentives to lenders, servicers, and homeowners to work together to modify loans and to avoid foreclosures, which cost families their homes every 13 seconds in America.
- FIGHTING MORTGAGE AND CORPORATE FRAUD & CREATING COMMISSION ON CAUSES OF CRISIS, to provide tools for prosecuting the mortgage scams and corporate frauds that contributed to the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression; and to create an outside commission to examine its causes.
- MILITARY PROCUREMENT REFORM, to crack down on Pentagon waste and cost overruns, which GAO says amount to \$296 billion just for the 96 largest weapons systems, by dramatically beefing up oversight of weapons acquisition, promoting greater use of competition, and curbing conflicts of interest.

Thank you for taking the time to read this e-newsletter. As always, please contact any of my offices below with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

[Robert A. Brady](#)

Member of Congress

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